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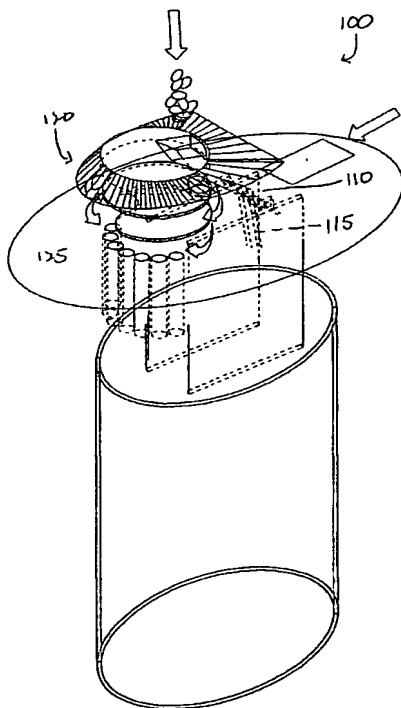
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(54) Title: APPARATUS, METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR RECEIVING AND DISTURBING COINS AND NOTES.



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to methods and systems for receiving and distributing currency. In particular, the present invention provides a novel apparatus for the inflow and outflow of a variety of currency. The systems of the present invention are capable of recycling a variety of currency from multiple countries and multiple denominations. The systems of the present invention have the added advantage of compact size.

WO 03/052700 A3



— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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24 December 2003

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/IB 02/05773

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G07D11/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C07D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages  | Relevant to claim No.     |
|------------|---|---------------------------|
| X          | US 6 128 402 A (JONES WILLIAM J ET AL)<br>3 October 2000 (2000-10-03)<br><br>column 2 -column 3<br>column 21<br>column 33<br>column 59, line 44<br>column 73 -column 75; claims 5,8,9;<br>figures 61-63 | 2-5,<br>10-19,<br>22-24   |
| Y          | ---   | 8                         |
| X          | PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN<br>vol. 017, no. 267 (P-1543),<br>25 May 1993 (1993-05-25)<br>& JP 05 006475 A (FUJITSU LTD),<br>14 January 1993 (1993-01-14)<br>abstract; figures                            | 2-5,<br>9-15,18,<br>22-24 |
| Y          | ---   | 8                         |
|            | ---<br>-/--   |                           |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

20 May 2003

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

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| C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT |  |                       |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| Category *   | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages   | Relevant to claim No. |
| Y  | PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN<br>vol. 2000, no. 21,<br>3 August 2001 (2001-08-03)<br>& JP 2001 093019 A (GLORY LTD),<br>6 April 2001 (2001-04-06)<br>abstract; figure<br>---                         | 2-22                  |
| Y  | WO 96 36933 A (CUMMINS ALLISON CORP)<br>21 November 1996 (1996-11-21)<br>page 4<br>---   | 2-24                  |
| Y  | US 6 006 989 A (ADEMMER HEINZ ET AL)<br>28 December 1999 (1999-12-28)<br>column 3; claims 1,5; figures 1,2<br>---  | 2-24                  |
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| Y  | US 6 086 471 A (ZIMMERMANN THOMAS)<br>11 July 2000 (2000-07-11)<br>column 1 -column 2<br>---   | 2-24                  |
| X  | US 4 733 765 A (WATANABE YOSHIHIRO)<br>29 March 1988 (1988-03-29)<br>figures 1-3<br>---  | 2                     |
| Y  | US 5 533 627 A (NORDQVIST LEIF)<br>9 July 1996 (1996-07-09)<br>cited in the description<br>---   | 2-24                  |
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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/IB 02/05773

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 1,82  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:  
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
  
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
  
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
  
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; It is covered by claims Nos.:  
2-24, 75-78, 81

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 2-24,75-78,81

1.1. Claims: 2-24,77,78,81

Refer to an apparatus for receiving and dispensing notes and coins in order to achieve an ATM that is smaller in volume and has recycling capabilities.

1.2. Claims: 75-76

Refer to an apparatus for handling mixed denominations from more than one country.

2. Claims: 25-35,45-66

Refer to an apparatus, a system and a method for notes in order to provide transportation of notes.

3. Claims: 36-44,79 and 80

Refer to an apparatus, a system and a method for sorting coins. It includes coin sorting components such as coin storage members and coin separating members.

4. Claims: 67-74

Refer to an apparatus for handling a monetary substitute. It refers to an apparatus for self service transactions with monetary substitute, for example tokens.

Please note that all inventions mentioned under item 1, although not necessarily linked by a common inventive concept, could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 1,82

Claims 1,82 relate to parts of the application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful search can be carried out.

These claims do not define the invention. The scope is so broad that there are no clear limitations. In claim 1 the mentioning of sizes do not add any specific technical features to the apparatus.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/IB 02/05773

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International Application No  
PCT/IB 02/05773

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